

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-05

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 IO-10

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /120 W  
----- 106717

R 292020Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7662  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0959

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, ENRG, TD

SUBJ: TEXACO STRIKE ENDS

REF: POS 910

1. THE OILFIELD WORKERS TRADE UNION (OWTU) ENDED ITS SEVEN-WEEK STRIKE AGAINST TEXACO TRINIDAD APRIL 27 DESPITE HAVING FAILED TO REACH A SETTLEMENT ON THE TERMS FOR A NEW CONTRACT. THE OWTU ACCEPTED TEXACO'S BACK-TO-WORK OFFER OF A 25 PERCENT INTERIM WAGE INCREASE PLUS A BONUS OF SIX PERCENT OF 1974 WAGES AND AGREED THAT THE OUTSTANDING CONTRACT ISSUES WOULD BE SETTLED BY THE INDUSTRIAL COURT. ALTHOUGH WORK HAS BEGUN ON RESTARTING THE REFINERY OPERATIONS, IT WILL BE SEVERAL WEEKS BEFORE TEXACO CAN SORT OUT ALL OF THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE STRIKE AND THE GO-SLOW WHICH PRECEDED IT AND RESUME FULL PRODUCTION.

2. DESPITE THE END OF THE STRIKE, MEMBERS OF THE DEFENSE FORCE  
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HAVE CONTINUED TO MAKE DELIVERIES OF GASOLINE AND OTHER PETROLEUM

PRODUCTS TO TRINTOC AND NATIONAL PETROLEUM SERVICE STATIONS.

3. COMMENT: THE BACK-TO-WORK AGREEMENT CAME AS SOMEWHAT OF A SURPRISE AFTER TEXACO HAD ISSUED A STRONG STATEMENT ON APRIL 23 THAT IT WOULD NOT RESUME OPERATIONS WITHOUT A FULL SETTLEMENT. SINCE THE MATTER WILL NOW BE DECIDED BY THE INDUSTRIAL COURT, HOWEVER, TEXACO NO DOUBT FEELS CONFIDENT THAT THE COURT WILL PREVENT ANY FURTHER INDUSTRIAL ACTION WHILE THE CASE IS BEFORE IT. ON THE UNION SIDE THERE WERE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT THE SUPPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE STRIKE WAS WEAKENING AND THAT THE LEADERSHIP WOULD HAVE TO COME

TO TERMS WITH TEXACO SOON IN ORDER TO PREVENT A COLLAPSE OF THE STRIKE

THE EXTENT TO WHICH SUPPORT FOR THE EXTREME POSITIONS OF OWTU PRESIDENT

GENERAL GEORGE WEEKES HAD ERODED SINCE THE STRIKE BEGAN WAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED BY WEEKES' ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS FOR A RESUMPTION OF WORK WHICH THE COMPANY HAD OFFERED ON MARCH 14, TWO DAYS AFTER THE STRIKE BEGAN, AND WHICH THE UNION HAD, AT THAT TIME, REJECTED OUT OF HAND.  
MILLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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